## **PATENT**

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

)	"EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label
)	No. EL827655114US. Date
)	of Deposit: September 24,
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)	Commissioner for Patents,
)	Washington, D.C. 20231
)	1. 1 .
)	/// //
)	Kichaul bemmenne
)	Richard Zimmermann
	) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) )

### **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The patents and/or publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form-1449 are submitted pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98. Copies of the patents or publications are enclosed as necessary.

#### TIME OF FILING

This information disclosure statement is being filed:

- with the application or within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), no certification or fee is required.
  - 2. after the time period specified in paragraph 1 above, but, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113 or notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311. Therefore, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), submitted herewith is:

#### (check either A or B below)

- A. a certification as specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e).
- B. the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c).
- 3. after the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113 or anotice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee. Therefore, Applicant submits herewith:
  - A. a certification as specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e);
  - B. the petition fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(i); and
  - C. the accompanying petition under 37 CFR §1.97(d).

#### **CERTIFICATION**

(only used if No. 2 or No. 3 above is checked)

The person(s) signing below certify

#### (check appropriate paragraph)

that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

#### OR

that no item of information contained in this InformationDisclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filling of this statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

#### **PETITION**

(only used if No. 3 above is checked)

Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) that this Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, and document(s) identified therein be considered.

#### PRIOR AND RELATED APPLICATIONS

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the patents and publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form-1449 are not provided because the patents and publications were previously cited by, or submitted to, the Patent Office in a prior application that Applicant(s) rely upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited by, or submitted to, the examiner of the following patent application(s):

Applicant(s):
Serial No.
Filing Date:
Title:
Status:

Other applications related to application Serial No. are:
Applicant(s):
Serial No.
Filing Date:
Title:
Status:

#### **METHOD OF PAYMENT**

No fee is required.

Attached is a check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN 6300 Sears Tower 233 South Wacker Drive Chicago, Illinois 60606-6402 (312) 474-6300

Date: September 24, 2001

Richard B. Hoffman

Reg. No: 26,910

09/937388 pc'd PCT/PTO SEP 2 4 2001

Form PTO-1449 (Mod	lified)

U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office Atty. Docket No. 30071/37749

Serial No.

Applicant

Klaus Klenk

Filing Date

Group

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
*Examiner Initials	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	4,602,046	7/22/86	Buser et al			
	5,580,905	12/3/96	Schwartz, Jr.			
	5,698,378	12/16/97	Kawamoto			

	F	OREIGN PA	TENT DOCU	MENTS			
*Examiner Initials	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Tra	nslation No
	DE 1934552	e.	Germany			X	140
	DE 19545357	,	Germany			X	
	DE 2357977	`	Germany			X	
	DE 4134019		Germany			X	
	EP 304667	,	ЕРО			X	
	EP 589642		ЕРО			X	
	JP09 174029		Japan			X	

	OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)
	(metuding Addior, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)
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**EXAMINER** 

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.